

Stretching Rules of Warfare Paid Off in Ramadi

EVENT RECAP: JUNE 15

by Aimee Vitrak

Jim Michaels came to the OPC two weeks before the release of his latest book, *A Chance in Hell: The Men who Triumphed over Iraq's Deadliest City and Turned the Tide of War*. Those who attended the book night received a free copy of his book from the publisher, St. Martin's Press.

Michaels covers military issues for *USA Today* and has made about 20 reporting trips to Iraq and Afghanistan as well as supervised the paper's six embedded reporters. As a former Marine Corps infantry officer, he brings unique insight into the mechanics and soldiers involved in war. During the talk about his book, Michaels set the scene taking listeners back to 2006 Iraq when civil war was raging. Colonel Sean MacFarland arrived in Ramadi and was told to do only one thing: keep a lid on Ramadi.

Michaels said that MacFarland is not the Hollywood ideal of a military commander. "He looks more like a high school biology teacher than Patton," Michaels said. MacFarland had a legacy of not seeming the commanding type, even at West Point where he "didn't fit in and didn't impress superiors."

Given his background, then, it's easy to see where MacFarland's resistance to just "keeping a lid" on Ramadi was not his

style. "He wanted to defeat the enemy."

He ordered men into Al Qaeda strongholds and sent in tanks and armored vehicles. "Not a hearts and minds approach at all," Michaels said. The death toll went to 1,500 and by summer, it was a stalemate. This paved the way for MacFarland to "roll the dice," as

Michaels put it, to forge a partnership with Sheik Abdul Sattar Bezia al-Rishawi and his growing band of fighters. Working with American troops, they drove Al Qaeda from Ramadi. The system worked because MacFarland "stretched the rules." "They took confiscated weapons and gave them to tribes," Michaels said.

In September 2007, President George W. Bush came to Iraq and went to Anwar and Fallujah and met with government officials and Sattar. During



Jim Michaels at the reception before the event with his guests.

the meeting, Sattar told Bush that he appreciated the sacrifices of U.S. troops. "When we're done in Anwar, we'll fight with you in Afghanistan," Sattar said. But this was not to be. Soon after Sattar was killed in a roadside bomb and threw "the Awakening" in peril. Sattar's brother Ahmed said, "Although they killed Sattar, there are one million Sattars in Anwar."

"And there were," Michaels said. "The movement had spread."

Online OPC Member Directory Launches

by Aimee Vitrak

The OPC online Member Directory is now ready to include your profile. The directory offers OPC members only the opportunity to network and search for other members based on current assignment location, regional experience, places of employment and many other criteria.

OPC member Michael Miller added his photo, his location and has placed

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Taiwan Minister to Speak about Asia-Pacific Economic Integration

EVENT PREVIEW: JULY 13

Dr. Johnny C. Chiang, Minister of the Taiwan Information Office, will be speaking at a luncheon at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs on Tuesday, July 13 at noon. The OPC will co-sponsor this talk with the added benefit that the luncheon will be free for OPC members.

Minister Chiang serves as the spokesman for Taiwan's cabinet and he is the primary link between the media and the government. His government is pursuing new economic and political initiatives across the Taiwan Strait with mainland China, which does not officially recognize the right of Taiwan to exist as a separate political entity.

Because of China's diplomatic weight, Taiwan risked isolation in the international community as well as economic stagnation. So it has begun to seek greater economic cooperation with China in the form of a cross-strait Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA). With more economic interdependence between Taipei and Beijing, the risk of conflict

across the Taiwan Strait could be diminished. That could ease the prospect that a conflict would erupt that would draw in American military forces.

Dr. Chiang has studied in the United States most notably receiving a Master of Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh and a Ph.D in International Studies at the University of South Carolina.

The Carnegie Council luncheon will be held at Merrill House, 170 East 64 Street, from noon to 2 p.m. The topic of the talk is "Taiwan: Building Partnerships for Asia-Pacific Economic Integration." Please RSVP to Stefanie Ambrosio at 212-838-4120 or events@ccea.org and identify yourself as an OPC member in order to get free admission.



Dr. Johnny C. Chiang

(OPC Online, Continued From Page 1)

himself in the marketplace for hire. OPC members can find him easily by searching the region where he lives, Central America, or by his current country, Mexico, his alma maters (University of Chicago and NYU), etc. He has also extended himself to other members offering historical background, international contacts, local contacts, logistics and personal tips.

Another way to use the directory is for upcoming trips. OPC member Nancy Day was on sabbatical this semester and preparing for trips to South Africa

(March-April) and Italy (July) and wanted to connect with OPC members in those locations. Day can now find OPC members in these countries by searching these locations. Searches like this will improve as our members fill out their information online. If you have not done so, please take ten minutes to complete your member profile. We need as many members as possible to make the search robust. If it is your first time logging on to the site, select "Request Password" at the top right-hand corner of the website, www.opcofamerica.org. Type in the e-mail field the e-mail address the OPC

has on file for you. You will then receive a password at that e-mail address for a one-time log-in only.

Member-only features include member events and announcements, event sign up, Member Directory, view members profiles, commenting on articles, forums and polls.

We hope you enjoy the new features to the site. If you encounter any issues with logging in, participating in the online OPC community or have suggestions on how we can improve the site and member-only features, e-mail info@opcofamerica.org.

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2010 Board Elections

Enclosed is a ballot for the 2010 election. Please return it by August 24 in the colored envelope provided.

PRESIDENT

DAVID A. ANDELMAN

David A. Andelman is Editor of *World Policy Journal*. Previously he served as Executive Editor of *Forbes.com*, the world's largest business and financial website. Earlier, he was a domestic and foreign correspondent for *The New York Times* in various posts in New York and Washington, Southeast Asia bureau chief, based in Bangkok, then East European bureau chief, based in Belgrade. He then moved to CBS News where he served for seven years as a Paris correspondent and has traveled through and reported from more than 60 countries. There followed service as a Washington correspondent for CNBC, news editor of Bloomberg News and business editor of *The New York Daily News*.



He is the author of three books: *The Peacemakers*, *The Fourth World War* and *A Shattered Peace: Versailles 1919 and the Price We Pay Today*. David has written for *Harpers*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Foreign Policy* and *Foreign Affairs*. He is a graduate of Harvard University and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and is a board member of the OPC, Council on Foreign Relations, the Century Association, the Harvard Club of New York, the National Press Club and the Grolier Club.

As president of the Overseas Press Club, he would like to continue to grow the legacy of this extraordinary institution, raise the reach, influence and exposure of its awards and its activities to promote a free press and the ability of reporters to function in the entire range of media in all nations, and above all to enrich the experience of OPC members.

VICE PRESIDENTS

ARLENE GETZ

Arlene Getz is Editorial Director for *Newsweek's* Worldwide Special Editions. In that capacity, she is in charge of editorial cooperation between *Newsweek International* and its expanding network of local-language editions in Asia, Europe and Latin America. Prior to taking up this post, Arlene served as Senior Editorial Manager on *Newsweek.com*, where she oversaw its daily domestic, foreign and political editorial coverage. Arlene joined the website in 1998 and played a key role in *Newsweek.com's* transition from an online publication of just a few bite-sized news nuggets a day to a daily site. Her previous positions include serving as the Deputy Editor and Foreign Editor of the site, working to reinvent the international section and expanding the site's non-U.S. news coverage. She also wrote on political and international news and edited the site's award-winning online sections on the attacks on September 11, 2001, the Iraq war, the U.S. presidential campaigns of 2000 and 2004 and the 2007 assassination



of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Arlene began reporting for *Newsweek* magazine from South Africa where she covered apartheid, the release of Nelson Mandela and its transition to democracy. She has served as a foreign correspondent for Gemini News Service of London, *St. Petersburg Times of Florida* and the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Australia. She has degrees in journalism and law, and was a Visiting Press Fellow at Cambridge University, England. Her honors include Front Page Awards in 2002 and 2003 for her online news coverage of the attacks of September 11, 2001 and their aftermath.

She has served as a judge for fellowship programs run by the International Reporting Project and the OPC. She was elected as a first vice president of the OPC in 2008 and chaired the committee judging the OPC Awards for 2009.

MARCUS MABRY

Marcus Mabry is Associate National Editor of *The New York Times*. Until April 2010, he was International Business Editor of the *Times*. Before coming to the *Times* in 2007, Mabry spent nearly 20 years at *Newsweek*, as a correspondent in Paris, Johannesburg and Washington, and as an editor in New York, covering, at various times, Asia, Latin America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the State Department. His last position at *Newsweek* was Chief of Correspondents.



He was the 1999-2000 recipient of the Edward R. Murrow Press Fellowship at the Council on Foreign Relations, and has won numerous journalism prizes, including the OPC's Morton Frank Award for Best Business Reporting from Abroad and the New York Association of Black Journalists Trailblazer Award.

He has written two books: *Twice as Good: Condoleezza Rice and Her Path to Power* and the memoir *White Bucks and Blackeyed Peas: Coming of Age Black in White America*. He received bachelor's and master's degrees from Stanford University in English, French and International Relations and studied at the Sorbonne.

MICHAEL SERRILL

Michael Serrill has been an OPC member for 17 years and Editor of *Dateline*, the magazine distributed in conjunction with the annual dinner, for more than a decade. He has served as an OPC Vice President, Secretary and twice as a member of the Board of Governors.

Serrill is Assistant Managing Editor at *Bloomberg Markets* magazine. He has a long career in international journalism, including 15 years at *Time* magazine and six years at *Business Week*. He is a graduate of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.



(Continued on Page 4)

TREASURER

JACQUELINE ALBERT-SIMON

Editor and U.S. Bureau Chief of *Politique Internationale* since 1985, Jacqueline Albert-Simon has spent more than two decades reporting, analyzing and agonizing over American foreign policy for French and other European readers of *PI*. She has been a frequent guest commentator on French and Canadian TV, guest journalist for *Figaro*, *La Vie Francaise*, French and American *Vogue*, and from 1984 to 1992 a contributor to *Harper's Magazine*. Throughout the 1990's, Jacqueline attended Davos and for two years was a fellow there. Albert-Simon has a Ph.D in politics and is presently a resident scholar at the Institute of French Studies at NYU. She has been an engaged and long-time member of the OPC, writing for the Freedom of the Press Committee and planning and moderating programs that resonate with her work. Several times a board member and an officer, Jackie's aim as Treasurer is both to guide and enhance the club's finances.



SECRETARY

JANE CIABATTARI

As a long-time contributing editor to *Parade* magazine, Jane Ciabattari reported from Brussels, Havana, Hong Kong, London, Marrakesh, Paris, Prague, Rome and Shanghai. She currently is a regular contributor to NPR and The Daily Beast and serves as President of the National Book Critics Circle. Her work has appeared in numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, the Guardian online, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, and the *Columbia Journalism Review*. As an OPC board member she has been involved in programming, awards judging, and revision of the OPC constitution and bylaws.



ACTIVE

RON ALLEN

Ron Allen is an NBC News correspondent based in New York. His reports appear on "NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams," "Today," and MSNBC. He joined NBC News in 1996, and since then has covered a wide range of national and international stories, most recently the historic 2008 U.S. Presidential election campaign. Ron moved to New York in 2003 after 11 years as a foreign correspondent based in London for ABC News from 1992 to 1996 before joining NBC. He has traveled to more than 75 countries, and spent a considerable amount of time in hotspots such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Balkans, Israel and the



Palestinian territories, and across Africa.

Ron's work with reporting teams has earned many of journalism's highest honors, including 6 OPC Awards, 4 Emmys, 2 Robert F. Kennedy Awards, 2 George Foster Peabody Awards, and a Columbia Dupont Award. The National Association of Black Journalists named him journalist of the year in 1996.

Ron has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in political science from the University of Pennsylvania. He is a member of the University's Board of Overseers, the Board of the OPC, and Leadership Council of the Committee to Protect Journalists.

REBECCA BLUMENSTEIN

Rebecca Blumenstein is a Deputy Managing Editor and the International Editor of *The Wall Street Journal*. Most recently, she was Managing Editor of *The Wall Street Journal Online*. Previously, Rebecca was the China Bureau Chief.

Prior to moving to China in 2005, Rebecca served as chief of the *Journal's* New York Technology Group, which covered the historic mergers and changes in technology that recast the telecommunications industry. Before that, she was the group's Deputy Chief and a reporter covering AT&T Corp. and WorldCom Inc.

Rebecca joined the *Journal* in 1995 as a reporter in the Detroit bureau, where she covered General Motors.

She began her journalism career at the *Tampa Tribune*, and then later moved to Gannett Newspapers and *Newsday*. She received a 1993 New York Newswomen's Award for best deadline writing for her coverage of the aftermath of the Long Island Railroad shootings. In 2003, she was part of a team that won the Gerald Loeb Award for deadline writing for coverage of WorldCom. She oversaw the China team that won the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting in 2007. In March, she was named to the Aspen Institute's Henry Crown Fellowship for 2009. Rebecca holds a bachelor's degree in economics and social science from the University of Michigan, where she was Editor in Chief of the *Michigan Daily*.



NIKHIL (NIK) DEOGUN

Nik Deogun joined CNBC in 2010 as Managing Editor overseeing the network's on-air content during "Business Day" programming. Nik comes to CNBC from *The Wall Street Journal*, where he was the Deputy Managing Editor, a position he has held since July 2008. Nik oversaw all financial coverage for the news organization and directed the *Journal's* international network of bureaus and correspondents. Prior to this, Nik was Editor of the Money & Investing section, where he oversaw coverage of Wall Street, banking, hedge funds, private equity, mutual funds, financial markets, investing and personal finance. From March 2004, Nik was Deputy Chief of the *Journal's* Washington bureau. In this role, he focused on overseeing business and regulatory coverage in addition to shepherding investigative projects. Nik joined *The Wall Street Journal* as a reporter in Atlanta in 1994 and moved to the New York bureau in June 1999 where he covered mergers and acquisitions



and corporate finance for the paper's Money & Investing section.

Nik grew up in Calcutta, India. He earned a bachelor's degree and graduated summa cum laude from Muskingum College in Ohio. He received a master's degree from the University of Missouri's School of Journalism.

KIMBERLY DOZIER

Kimberly Dozier joined the Associated Press as a correspondent, covering intelligence and counterterrorism in spring 2010. Before that, she was a CBS News correspondent, covering the White House and the Pentagon from 2007 to 2010. She worked primarily in Iraq from 2003 to 2006, spending most of her time in Baghdad from her home bureau in Jerusalem. In her fourteen-year-career as a foreign correspondent, she covered the Middle East extensively for CBS News, as well as *The Washington Post*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, Monitor Radio, Voice of America and BBC World Service. Her assignments for television and radio have spanned several continents — from Iraq to Northern Ireland.



She published a memoir detailing her full recovery from a car bomb that hit her team while covering a 4th ID patrol in Baghdad in May 2006. It took the lives of an Army captain and his translator, and Kimberly's team, cameraman Paul Douglas and soundman James Brolan.

Kimberly has received multiple awards including a 2009 Sigma Delta Chi award for her coverage of troops on the home front, a 2008 Peabody Award and the 2008 RTNDA/Edward R. Murrow Award for a CBS News Sunday Morning report on two women veterans who lost limbs in Iraq. She received another Murrow Award in 2002 as part of the CBS News radio team reporting on Afghanistan. She has also received three American Women in Radio and Television Gracie Awards for radio reports on Mideast violence, Kosovo and the Afghan war, and the organization's Grand Gracie Award in 2007 for her body of television work in Iraq.

CHRYSTIA FREELAND

Until recently Chrystia Freeland was the U.S. Managing Editor of the *Financial Times*. This summer she became Global Editor at Large at Reuters.

Chrystia worked for two years at *The Globe and Mail*, Canada's national newspaper, as Deputy Editor. Chrystia began her career working as a stringer in Ukraine, writing for the *FT*, *The Washington Post* and *The Economist*. Her expertise lies in the history and culture of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. She received her bachelor's degree in History and Literature from Harvard University and earned a Master of Studies degree from St. Anthony's College at Oxford University which she attended as a Rhodes Scholar.



Chrystia is the author of *Sale of a Century: The Inside Story of the Second Russian Revolution* (2000), which details Russia's journey from communism to capitalism. Her profile of Mikhail Khodorkovsky won 'Best Energy Submission' at the Business

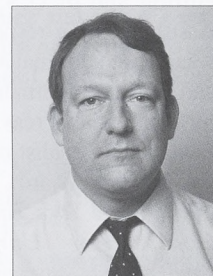
Journalist of the Year Awards in 2004.

Chrystia sits on the advisory board of the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto and is a board member of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. She has been honored as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.

SANTIAGO LYON

Santiago Lyon is Director of Photography at The Associated Press, responsible for the AP's global photo report and the hundreds of photographers and photo editors worldwide who produce it. In his more than 25 years experience in news service photography, Santiago has won multiple photojournalism awards for his photographs of conflicts around the globe.

Under Santiago's direction, the war in Iraq earned the AP its 48th Pulitzer Prize in 2005 for work by a team of photographers. The AP's winning entry, its 29th for photography, consisted of 20 photos from Iraq by 11 different photographers, five of them Iraqis. In 2007 the AP won its 30th Pulitzer Prize for photography for an image made by Oded Balilty showing an Israeli woman attempting to block a line of Israeli riot police.



Santiago joined AP in 1991 in Cairo, Egypt after working for United Press International and Reuters. He has covered stories in over 50 countries and has documented numerous conflicts including the 1991 Gulf War and conflicts in Croatia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Somalia, Yemen and Afghanistan among others. Lyon served as AP photo editor for Spain and Portugal from 1995 until 2003, when he was awarded a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. He was named AP Director of Photography in December 2003.

ABIGAIL PESTA

Abigail Pesta is the Editor-at-Large of *Marie Claire* magazine in New York. Born in London and raised in the Midwest, she has lived and worked as a journalist in New York, London and Hong Kong. She is a former news and features editor at *The Wall Street Journal Asia* where she ran a team of *Journal* reporters covering business, technology and culture throughout Asia. Based in Hong Kong, she also helped launch the first Asian news-and-editing bureau for WSJ.com. Before that, she was based in London for Dow Jones Newswires, supervising an editing desk that handled copy from 30 European bureaus.

Currently at *Marie Claire* in New York, she assigns and edits international coverage and writes long-form journalism for the magazine. Her reporting work includes a recent profile of a young woman sold into sexual slavery in Cambodia. Before joining *Marie Claire*, Abigail was an articles editor at *Glamour* magazine, where she recruited Mariane Pearl to the magazine to write a popular monthly column profiling women worldwide who have set out to change the world. She shared a National Headliner



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2010 Board Elections

Enclosed is a ballot for the 2010 election. Please return it by August 24 in the colored envelope provided.

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Award for her role as the editor of the inaugural columns in the series. At *Glamour*, Abigail also wrote news features, including a profile of an Iranian-born human rights activist who helps save children sentenced to death for crimes in Iran. Abigail worked for a newspaper owned and edited by her parents in southern Indiana. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame and occasionally writes for *The Wall Street Journal* and short stories.

GILLIAN TETT

Gillian Tett is the U.S. Managing Editor of the *Financial Times*. She leads the editorial development of the paper's U.S. edition and of U.S. news on FT.com. Previously, she was Assistant Editor responsible for the FT's markets coverage. She was named Journalist of the Year (2009) and Business Journalist of the Year (2008) by the British Press Awards and Senior Financial Journalist of the Year (2007) by the Wincott Awards. Gillian is the author of *The New York Times* bestseller *Fool's Gold: How Unrestrained Greed Corrupted a Dream, Shattered Global Markets and Unleashed a Catastrophe* (Little Brown, UK and Simon and Schuster, US) published in May 2009. She holds a PhD in social anthropology from Cambridge University based on field work in the former Soviet Union.



JOEL WHITNEY

Joel Whitney is a founding editor of *Guernica Magazine*, an online magazine of politics and the arts. His writing and commentary have appeared in *The New Republic*, *The Village Voice*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Paris Review*, *The Nation*, *Agni*, *New York* magazine and NPR. He writes about politics, books and the arts, and has focused on Islam and American wars, the abridgment of Constitutional rights during the Bush era, and the crises in Burma and Darfur. His January interview with David Frum appeared in *Esquire* Russia. For his poetry, he was awarded a Discovery Prize by the 92nd Street Y and *The Nation*.



Joel has appeared in panels at PEN World Voices Festival of International Literature and often lectures at universities, including NYU's School of Journalism, Columbia's Writing Program, and Fordham University, where he was on faculty from 2002 to 2006. Joel was a judge for OPC's 2009 Ed Cunningham Award.

ASSOCIATE

BILL COLLINS

Bill Collins is a Communications Director with the Ford Motor Company. He runs the company's New York office and also handles publicity for the Annual OPC Awards Dinner and other OPC events.

Previously, he served as an OPC board member from 2002 to 2006. Collins is a member of the OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee. He also serves the Committee to Protect Journalists as a member of the CPJ's Advisory Board. Collins worked for 14 years as a print and broadcast journalist before joining Ford.



SARAH LUBMAN

Sarah Lubman is a partner at Brunswick Group, an international corporate communications firm. Prior to joining Brunswick in 2005, she worked for 17 years as a journalist, starting off as a night editor in ABC News Tokyo bureau. Sarah was a stringer in Beijing for *The Washington Post* during the 1989 student democracy movement and Tiananmen Square crackdown, and then joined UPI as a reporter in the Beijing bureau.



She worked subsequently as a reporter in *The Wall Street Journal*'s Los Angeles bureau, as a reporter and Senior Editor at the *San Jose Mercury News*, and as Asia Editor at *Newsweek International*. Sarah has a B.A. in Japanese and Religious Studies from the University of California-Berkeley and an M.A. in Japanese literature from The University of California-Los Angeles.

AMBER QURESHI

Amber Qureshi is a Senior Editor at Free Press acquiring literary fiction, works-in-translation, and narrative, progressive nonfiction. She was a 2007 Editorial Fellow at the Jerusalem Book Fair and is on the American board for the Fair now; has represented Free Press at the Frankfurt Book Fair and has taught at writers' conferences at the New School in New York City, North Carolina and Colorado.

She acquired and edited *The White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga, winner of the Man Booker Prize 2008, her first acquisition for Free Press. *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter* by Peter Manseau won the 2009 National Jewish Book Award for Fiction which was her next acquisition. *Heart Like Water* by Joshua Clark was nominated for a 2008 National Book Critics Circle Award.



Before coming to Free Press, she was an editor at Picador and worked in editorial at Alfred A. Knopf for several years. Before that, she worked at a translation house in Tokyo for a number of years. Fluent in French and Japanese, she studied Pure Mathematics/Algebraic Topology as an undergraduate and as a Monbusho Scholar in the Graduate School of Chiba University, Japan.



PEOPLE... with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: Katie

Paul is a winner big time. She won the 2007 OPC Foundation's Irene Corbally Kuhn Scholarship with an essay on the political dynamism of Morocco, a Foundation internship in the Reuters bureau in Buenos Aires, shared a Deadline Club award this year with *Newsweek* staffers for their report on California's San Joaquin Valley that produces nearly half of all U.S. fruits, nuts and vegetables, and now has received a Fulbright Grant to study in Syria this autumn. Paul became an OPC intern and now is an OPC member. She is proficient in Arabic, French and Spanish.



Yu Sun has moved to Shanghai to become an economics reporter for "China Confidential," a newsletter published by the *Financial Times*. In 2008, he was the first winner of the Foundation's Standard & Poor's Award for Economic and Business Reporting with an essay on the perils Chinese energy companies face when investing in developing countries. A graduate student in business and economics at New York University and a graduate of Fudan University in Shanghai, Yu is a former *Financial Times* news researcher.

MURDERS: Two Philippine broadcasters known for their commentaries on corruption, illegal logging and other issues were killed within less than 24 hours of each other. **Joselito Agustin**, 37, of DZJC Aksyon Radyo in Laoag City died of gunshot wounds early on June 16 several hours after two men on motorcycles ambushed him while he was riding home on a motorcycle. Less than 24 hours earlier, **Desiderio Camangyan** of Sunrise FM in Mati City was shot and killed while he was onstage as host for an amateur singing contest. The National Union of Journalists in the Philippines said 139 journalists and media workers have been

killed in the Philippines since the end of Ferdinand E. Marcos' rule in 1986.

CHENGDU, China: The Sichuan Province Supreme Court on June 9 upheld the five-year prison sentence of **Tan Zuo-ren**, 56, writer and former editor of *Literati* magazine. He was sentenced in February for criticizing the Chinese Communist Party over the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre. Tan also got in trouble with the government for his attempt to compile an independent report on the 2008 Sichuan earthquake in which more than 5,600 of schoolchildren were killed or missing in the collapse of 64 school buildings.

DHAKA: Police stormed the office of *Amar Desh* newspaper June 2, just hours after Dhaka's deputy commissioner, Muhibul Haque, ordered its publishing license suspended. Acting editor **Mahmudur Rahman** was arrested on fraud charges and held for about six hours. Government sources said the paper's former publisher filed the complaint against Mahmudur, but local news outlets said the publisher was forced to sign the complaint. **David Dadge**, director of the International Press Institute, said, "We are concerned that the Bangladeshi government is using administrative sanctions to limit the newspaper's ability to criticize its policies."

FAIRFIELD, Connecticut: This columnist's principal care physician gave him the ultimate birthday greeting. He told his doctor, who is younger than this writer, that he turned 90 years old in June. The doctor replied, "What advice do you have for my health?"

GAZA: At least 60 journalists were aboard the international flotilla that was carrying relief goods through the Israeli blockade to the Gaza Strip May 31 when the vessels were intercepted by Israeli forces, Reporters Without Borders said. The correspondents included **Svetoslav Ivanov** and **Valentin Vassilev** of Bulgaria's BTV, **Muna Shester** of the

Kuwait News Agency, **Talat Hussain** of Aaj TV, **Paul McGeough** and **Kate Geraghty** of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, **Mario Damolin** of the Frankfurter *Allgemeine Zeitung*, **David Segarra** of teleSUR, **Ayse Sarioglu** of Taraf, **Murat Palavar** and **Hakan Albayrak** of Yeni Safak, **Sümeyye Ertekin**, **Ümit Sönmez** and **Ersin Esen** of VNET and **Ashwad Ismail** and **Samsul Kamal Abdul Latip** of Astro Awani.

HONG KONG: Myrna Reblando, a Filipina mother of six, is the widow of **Alejandro (Bong) Reblando** of the *Manila Bulletin*, one of the 26 journalists killed in the massacre of 57 people in the southern Philippines last November. She was a special guest and speaker at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong during its 14th annual Human Rights Press Awards on April 17. "No one in the room will forget her speech," the Club's magazine reported. Myrna is vice chair and spokesperson for Justice Now, an association of the families of the slain journalists.



Myrna Reblando



Tom Mitchell of the *Financial Times* was elected this spring to his second term as president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong. Among the Club's elected governors was OPC member **Keith Bradsher**, a *New York Times* correspondent.



Journalists **Alan Morison** and **Chutima Sidasathian** of Phuket, Thailand won awards for investigative and human rights reporting for their reports on the push back from Thailand of Rohingya boat people, a Muslim eth-

(Continued on Page 8)

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nic group. Their reports were published in January 2009 online and in Hong Kong's *South China Morning Post*. The awards were given by the Society of Publishers in Asia and announced at a dinner in June.



Now in its 10th year, the Vicky Shek Zeitlin Memorial Scholarship Fund at Hong Kong University received another U.S.\$10,000 in June in a donation authorized by **Ying Chan**, director of the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at Hong Kong University. The fund awards scholarships to Hong Kong journalism students and is named for **Vicky Shek**, wife of former AP and UPI executive **Arnold Zeitlin**. Vicky was killed several years ago in an automobile accident shortly after arriving at Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C. Arnold added another \$1,000 to the fund that was started with one million Hong Kong dollars (about U.S. \$130,000), half of which was provided by matching funds through the Freedom Forum.

Contributions to the scholarship fund, tax deductible in the United States, can be made by mailing a check made out to the "Friends of the University of Hong Kong" and marked for the Vicky Shek Zeitlin Memorial Scholarship Fund to: Friends of The University of Hong Kong, 1321 Sydney Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

ISTANBUL: Four Turkish journalists were found guilty in June of violating Turkey's anti-terrorist law. **Irfan Aktan** was sentenced to a year and three months in prison for a 2009 article he wrote that the prosecutor argued "encourages the readers to violence and shows resort to violence as a necessary and rightful measure." **Merve Erol**, editor of *Express*, the magazine that published the article, was fined 16,000 Turkish lira (U.S.\$10,156). The two journalists were found guilty of spreading "propaganda relating to a terrorist organization." Newspaper executives **Filiz Kocali** and **Ramazan Pekgoz** were sen-



Irfan Aktan

tenced to seven and a half years in prison for publishing interviews with the commander of the Kurdistan Workers' Party.

JAKARTA: **Justin Doebele** will be the chief editorial adviser to *Forbes Indonesia* when the English-language monthly magazine is launched in September. Doebele, an OPC member and former editor of the *OPC Bulletin*, is moving to Jakarta from Singapore where he was *Forbes* senior editor for Asia and the magazine's special projects director for *Forbes Asia*. Earlier he was a *Forbes* staff reporter in New York. Doebele, who has spent 16 years with *Forbes* including 10 years in Singapore, said in an e-mail to this column, "Despite its size, Indonesia has long been under reported. With strong economic growth, Indonesia is now one of the world's most interesting business stories. We are looking forward to telling that story in the pages of *Forbes*." *Forbes* also publishes editions in China, India and South Korea.



Five Australian-based correspondents were deliberately murdered in 1975 during the Indonesian invasion of East Timor. Gatot Purwanto, a retired Indonesian army officer who took part in the invasion, told the magazine *Tempo* this spring. The Indonesian government had said the reporters were accidentally killed in crossfire, a version officially accepted by the Australian government. But Purwanto said Indonesian troops killed the correspondents because "If they had been left alive, they would say it was an Indonesian invasion." The journalists were two British nationals working for a Sydney-based TV channel, cameraman **Brian Peters** and reporter **Malcolm Rennie**; reporter **Greg Shackleton** and sound recordist **Tony Stewart** from Australia; and cameraman **Gary Cunningham**, a New Zealander.

LUSAKA, Zambia: **Fred M'membe**, editor of *The Post*, a newspaper critical of the government, was sentenced to four months of hard labor June 4 for contempt of court. The charge stemmed from his decision to publish a commentary during last year's trial of another *Post* editor, **Chansa Kabwela**, on charges she distributed pornography

by publishing a photo of a woman in childbirth. The commentary, written by a Cornell University law professor, called the case against Kabwela a "comedy of errors." Kabwela was found not guilty.

MOGADISHU: A series of attacks against journalists in Somalia took place in May. Islamist Al-Shabab militants raided the premises of Radio Somaliweyn in Mogadishu and made off with some of the station's equipment on May 21. Three reporters from Mogadishu radio stations were arrested May 25 by the insurgent Hizbul Islam in the town of Afgoye. On May 26, six correspondents who were covering the aftermath of heavy rains in the semi-autonomous Putland region were attacked by police and beaten.

MOSCOW: OPC member **James Brooke** has reported from around the world, and this summer he will shift from print to radio/TV broadcasting when he joins VOA in Moscow. Before Russia, Jim was a *New York Times* correspondent in Africa, Brazil, Canada, the American Rockies and Japan/Korea. After *The Times*, he spent a year in Moscow with Bloomberg News. In the summer of 2006, Jim brushed up his Russian at Middlebury College in Vermont, where his twin sons William and Alexander will enroll as freshmen this winter.

NEW YORK: Among the letters and contributions that have come into the OPC Foundation following the death of **R. Edward (Ed) Jackson** was one note from his son **Roger Jackson**, who wrote, "American awareness of international affairs was my father's central cause throughout his life, and I know that, over many years, he found the OPC to be a congenial gathering place for like-minded friends and colleagues. He contributed in important ways to the OPC's work, and I know he derived great pleasure from the long association (long enough that I can remember, as a boy, reading *OPC Bulletins* he would bring home from work)." Ed Jackson, a former OPC vice president, chair of the Club's scholarship committee and a Correspondent Fund officer, died February 5 at age 85. His son is a professor of religion and South Asian studies at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota.

Helen Thomas Retires

Caught in a storm of criticism for her remarks about Jewish people, **Helen Thomas'** "immediate" retirement as a Hearst syndicated newspaper columnist was announced June 7 by the Hearst Corporation. For 50 years from John F. Kennedy to Barack Obama, Thomas, daughter of Lebanese immigrants, has covered the White House for UP, which she joined in 1943, UPI and for the past 10 years for Hearst. The firestorm started when a YouTube video showed Thomas, 89, an OPC member, saying that Jewish people should "get the hell out of Palestine" and "go back home" to Poland, Germany and America. Thomas made the comment to Rabbi David Nesenoff, who interviewed her for his video blog at a Jewish Heritage Day event at the White House.



On June 5, a few days after the interview, Thomas posted on her Web site: "I deeply regret my comments I made last week regarding the Israelis and the Palestinians. They do not reflect my heartfelt belief that peace will come to the Middle East only when all parties recognize the need for mutual respect and tolerance. May that day come soon."

But the damage was done. In a statement, the White House Correspondents Association wrote, "Many in our profession who have known Helen for years were saddened by the comments, which were especially unfortunate in light of her role as a trailblazer on the White House beat." White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said at a briefing, "Those remarks were offensive and reprehensible. I think she should and has apologized because obviously those remarks do not reflect the — certainly the opinion of, I assume, most of the people in here and certainly not of the administration."

Ari Fleischer, press secretary for former President George W. Bush, said, "Helen's statement calling for religious cleansing of Israel is reprehensible. If this isn't bigotry, what is? What she said is as bad as someone saying all blacks should leave America and go back to Africa." Abraham H. Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, issued a written statement: "Her suggestion that Israelis should go back to Poland and Germany is bigoted and shows a profound ignorance of history. We believe Thomas needs to make a more forceful and sincere apology for the pain her remark has caused." Lanny Davis, who served as special counsel to former President Bill Clinton, said, "Helen Thomas, who I used to consider a close friend and who I used to respect, has showed herself to be an anti-Semitic bigot... She has a right to criticize Israel and that is not the same as being an anti-Semite."

Former New York City Mayor Edward Koch said, "Her statement that Jews should 'get the hell out of Palestine' and go back to 'Poland and Germany' is clear evidence that she is no longer in control of her emotions and cognitive powers and that she cannot carry out the impartial obligations of a journalist. She has disgraced herself." *Newsweek*: "Sad, senile slur ends five-decade White House career. Should've quit a long time ago."

Executives from her former companies spoke highly of Thomas. **Charles J. Lewis**, Hearst senior editor and former longtime Washington bureau chief: "Helen's achievements in journalism have made her the other Washington monument. She brings passion and commitment to her world which is why she has so many devoted fans. Washington journalists — stingy in their peer praise — unabashedly admire her for her courage and tenacity. **Robert E. Page**, former UPI vice president: "Everyone is pouring it on Helen. A sad way for her to go out. You can bet that the only ones who will offer any sympathy and friendship when she probably feels she hasn't a friend left will be her old UPI colleagues. The bond remains. A terrible mistake certainly but hardly the whole of a wonderful career."

Widely covered in newspapers from New York to California and on to Australia, on TV, radio and the Internet, Thomas' resignation was even reported in the foreign press including the Chinese-language *World Journal* published in New York with her photo. Rabbi Nesenoff, who interviewed Thomas when she made her offensive comments about Israel, said he received more than 25,000 hate e-mails.

◆

John Morris, OPC member since 1954, was honored by the International Center of Photography at their Infinity Awards Dinner held on May 10 at the Chelsea Piers. Morris received the Lifetime Achievement Award for being "the world's most influential photo edi-

tor." In 1953 he was the Executive Editor of Magnum Photos working alongside its founders **Robert Capa** and **Henri Cartier-Bresson**. Before that he was *Life* magazine's London Picture Editor handling the D-Day coverage and serving as field coordinator for all press photographers in Normandy (1943-44). He has held many prominent positions for Time Inc., *The Washington Post*,

Ladies' Home Journal and *The New York Times*.

Last year he received the French Legion d'Honneur, France's highest and most prestigious award. OPC Executive Director **Sonya Fry** attended the ICP dinner and congratulated Morris on his career in photojournalism.



John Morris and Sonya Fry at the dinner.

◆

Keith Richburg's *Out of America: A Black Man Confronts Africa* is "among the most memorable" memoirs on Africa. So wrote **Joshua Hammer** in reviewing another book on Africa in *The New York Times Book Review* June 6. Richburg, a *Washington Post* correspondent, was based in Nairobi from 1991 to 1994, and he covered coups, wars and massacres from Liberia to Somalia. From 1993 to 2006, Hammer was *Newsweek's* bureau chief in Nairobi, South America, Los Angeles, Berlin, Jerusalem and Africa.

◆

Former OPC President **Larry Smith's** 2004 oral history of Medal of Honor winners, *Beyond Glory*, is quoted from in *The New York Times* obituary on John W. Finn, 100, who died May 27. Finn was the last of 15 U.S. Navy men who received the Medal of Honor for heroism during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

◆

Gideon Rose, managing editor of *Foreign Affairs* for a decade, will become editor of the magazine October 1. He will succeed **James F. Hoge Jr.**, who after 18 years is stepping down to pursue new opportunities in communications and international affairs. Rose said, "Thanks to Jim Hoge's leadership, *Foreign Affairs* is now read and respected more widely than ever before." Before joining *Foreign Affairs*, Rose taught U.S. foreign policy at Princeton and Columbia Universities and served on the staffs of the National Security Council and the Council on

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Foreign Relations, which publishes the magazine. His book on how American wars end will be published in October by Simon & Schuster.



Andrew Koppel, 40, son of **Ted Koppel**, the retired former ABC "Nightline" anchor, was found dead in a Washington Heights apartment at 1:30 a.m. May 31 after a daylong drinking binge with a man he had met a few hours earlier in a midtown bar. Koppel was brought to the apartment by Russell Wimberly, 32, a waiter he had met 12 hours earlier. An attorney, Koppel resigned from the New York City Housing Authority in 2008 and had been teaching at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

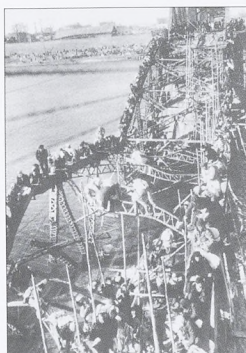
PRESCOTT, Arizona: OPC member **Jack Casserly** reports that he has stopped writing to take care of his wife, Joy, who has been ill for more than a year. A former correspondent for International News Service and ABC News, his assignments have taken him to some 60 countries, reporting from the Korean War to the Vatican. Casserly is the author of 10 non-fiction and fiction books.



Jack Casserly

SEOUL:

Age did not stop **Max Desfor**, 96, from returning in June to Korea where he won the Pulitzer Prize for spot news photography 59 years ago. Desfor, a widower, and his companion, Shirley Belasco, spent a week in Seoul for the opening of the Pulitzer Prize Photography Exhibition in the Hangaram Design Museum. OPC member **Cyma Rubin** arranged the showing of 145 Pulitzer-winning photographs from 1942



Desfor's Pulitzer Prize winning photo of the Taedong Bridge taken on December 5, 1950.

to this year, and they will be exhibited throughout South Korea for nine months. She arranged a similar exhibit in Korea in 1999. Both Desfor and Rubin spoke at the exhibit. Desfor won his 1951 Pulitzer for a photo of North Korean refugees climbing over the bombed-out Taedong Bridge. Desfor lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.

WASHINGTON: This year's Knight International Journalism Awards will go to Brazilian reporter **Daniela Arbex** and Indonesian entrepreneur **Tosca Santoso**. In her reporting for the *Tribuna de Minas* newspaper in Juiz de Fora, Brazil, Arbex exposed the abuse of rape victims and the mentally ill, prompting Brazilian government reforms.

She reported that rape victims were denied medication to treat the AIDS virus, that 30 mentally ill patients had died because of poor service in a psychiatric hospital and that drug traffickers enlisted school children to sell narcotics. In 1999, Santoso founded KBR68H, Indonesia's first independent radio network. Now Indonesia's largest radio network, it transmits eight hours of news daily over 720 radio stations to 22 million listeners, giving many of them their first access to public service program on topics such as good government and human rights. The awards will be presented at a dinner in Washington November 9 with OPC member **Christiane Amanpour**, host of ABC News' "This Week," as mistress of ceremonies.



Eight U.S. journalists have been selected to report abroad as fellows of the International Reporting Project. The fellowships start in August and continue for nine weeks.

The fellows and the countries from which they will report: **Ruthie Ackerman**, freelance print, Saudi Arabia; **Charlotte Buchen**, freelance video, Pakistan; **Helen Coster**, staff writer, *Forbes*, Bolivia; **Konstantin Kakaes**, freelance print, Middle East; **Jori Lewis**, freelance radio, Cameroon; **Seema Mathur**, freelance video, Liberia; **Betsy Pisik**, freelance print, Nigeria; and **Nicholas Schmidle**, freelance print, Russia. Director of the fellowship program is OPC member **John Schidlovsky**.

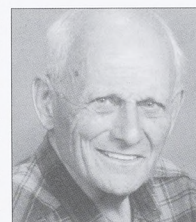
WEDDING

Nahid Siamdoust and **Andrew Butters** met in Tehran in February 2009 when they were covering the 30th anniversary of the Iranian revolution for *Time*. From 2006 to 2007, Siamdoust was a correspondent and producer for Al Jazeera's English-language channel in Doha, Qatar, and she also covered Iranian politics and culture for *Time*. She now is a freelance writer for *Time* and a doctoral candidate in modern Middle Eastern studies at St. Antony's College, Oxford. Butters is a Middle East correspondent for *Time* based in Beirut. On June 11, Nahid, 33, and Andrew, 37, were married at the First Presbyterian Church in New York City.



PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Ladis (Kris) Donabed Kristof, father of Nicholas Kristof, a *New York Times* columnist and OPC member, was born in 1918 of Polish and Armenian parents who lived on a sprawling estate of thousands of acres in Austria-Hungary. During World War II, he was imprisoned by the Nazis for helping spy on their military presence in Poland, but he bribed his way to freedom. Later the Soviet Army confiscated his family's land and it became a part of Ukraine. The elder Kristof escaped from the Ukraine to Yugoslavia on a moonless night by swimming across the Danube River on an inner tube that sprang a leak. In Yugoslavia he was sent to a concentration camp and later worked in an asbestos mine and a logging camp. In 1950, he escaped again and was cleaning rooms in a hotel and selling wine in Paris when a Portland, Oregon couple arranged for his immigration to the United States.



The first thing he did when his ship landed was to buy a copy of *The New York Times*. He worked in an Oregon logging camp; studied English to add to his mastery of Polish, Romanian, French, German, Russian, Ukrainian and Serb-Croatian; graduated in political science from Reed College in 1955; became a U.S. citizen in 1958; earned a Ph.D in

political science at the University of Chicago in 1969; and taught and did research at Temple University, Stanford University, University of Santa Clara; the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada; and Portland State University. Kristof survived a tractor rollover when he was 86 and hunted deer and elk into his 90s. Author and editor of several books, Ladis Kristof, 91, died June 15 at his and his wife's 73-acre farm in Yamhill, Oregon, where he grew cherries and timber. His wife Jane survives. His son Nicholas said, "One of the extraordinary things about my dad was the way he bridged two very different worlds: conferences and scholarship and the world of farming in Yamhill."

◆

Oh Kie-chiang, 79, South Korea's press officer at Panmunjom during the 1953 Korean War peace talks and later an academic leader in the United States, died in Evanston, Illinois, May 31 after neuro-surgery and pneumonia. When he was an International News Service correspondent covering the Korean War, **Jack Casserly** met Captain Oh, who was well liked by the American correspondents, and Jack decided to bring him to the United States. In a report to this column, Casserly, an OPC member, said the South Korean Army commander asked him why he wanted to bring Oh to the United States. "I replied that anyone could invest in stocks and bonds, but very few people could invest in a nation."

In 1957, Oh earned journalism and political science degrees at Marquette University, Casserly's alma mater; then studied at Columbia University; and later earned a Ph.D in international relations at Georgetown University. Over the years, Oh became a political science professor at Marquette, chairman of that department and dean of Marquette's Graduate School; Academic Vice President at Catholic University of America; and a consultant to the U.S. Defense Department and the South Korean embassy in Washington. He lectured on foreign affairs at 15 U.S. universities from Harvard to Stanford to Notre Dame and at six South Korean universities, and he wrote six books about South Korea. Casserly reported: "He preferred to be called John Kie-chiang Oh since he became a Catholic and wished to Americanize his name."

Digital Tools for Digital Journalists

EVENT PREVIEW: JULY 12

In a special session for OPC members, The New York Microsoft office is offering a free primer on the latest digital technology for PC users on Monday evening, **July 12**. At a session titled, "Digital Tools for Digital Journalists," Microsoft technology specialists will walk through new technologies for today's digital journalist or blogger, including note-taking, gathering and editing audio sound bites and blogging with OneNote 2010, and lightweight photo and video editing tools with Windows Live Essentials.

For the experienced digital journalist wanting a sneak peek at these new tools or a traditional journalist seeking to make the jump online, this session will be equal parts interactive and educational.

The session is open to 20 OPC members and will take place at the Microsoft Technology Center in Midtown – 5th floor of 1290 Avenue of the Americas (between 51st and 52nd Streets).

The session will run from 6 to 7:30 p.m.; cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and time for questions 7:30 to 8:30 pm. If you are interested in joining this informational session, please email Catherine Collins at cathcol@microsoft.com to reserve a spot.

◆

Fred Zusy, 96, a former AP correspondent in Cairo, Istanbul and Rome, died May 30. He lived in Kensington, Maryland. Egypt attempted to expel the elder Zusy for "bad faith." Egyptian officials warned him several times that his work was aimed at harming the interests of Egypt. When Egypt was warned the expulsion could harm relations with the U.S., it reversed course. The Egyptian ambassador in Washington said Zusy's expulsion had nothing to do with his stories but with his helping smuggle film out of Egypt. In another international incident, President Truman was quoted during a 1956 tour of Italy that the World War II landings at Salerno and Anzio were unnecessary "and planned by some squirrel-headed general." Truman denied he said that, but Zusy and a correspondent for another news organization defended the accuracy of the quote. After leaving AP, Zusy worked for the CIA.

Three days before his death, one of his daughters, **Anne Zusy**, 58, of Ridgewood, New Jersey, died of lung cancer. She had worked for *The New York Times*, Voice of America, AP and the *Ridgewood Gazette*. For the past two years she was a Ridgewood village councilwoman. She was the wife of **Al Ortiz**, Executive



Producer and Director, Special Events, at CBS News.

OPC Foundation Executive Director **Jane Reilly**, a former mayor of Ridgewood, was at the funeral. Among the contingent of present and former CBS News employees also in attendance were OPC members **Dan Rather** and **Marcy McGinnis**, OPC Foundation board member **Allen Alter**, and OPC Foundation luncheon speaker **Byron Pitts**.

◆

Kayser Winsiang Sung, 90, an editor and former correspondent, died in Hong Kong January 12. Born in Nanjing, China, Sung was a reporter and feature editor on several Chinese newspapers before joining Reuters in 1947 as a reporter, translator and feature writer. Reuters transferred him to Hong Kong in 1949, and he spent the next 10 years with the wire service.

In 1959, Sung became managing editor and publisher of the *Far Eastern Economic News*, a weekly magazine, where he remained until 1968. In 1964, he and *Review* editor **Richard G. Wilson** received the Ramon Magsaysay Award for their reports on Asia's quest for economic advance. In 1970, Sung and the late Hong Kong industrialist Cha Chi-ming co-founded Business Press, Ltd. and started publishing *Textile Asia*, a monthly journal. At the time of his death, Sung was still editor-in-chief of *Textile Asia*.

New Books

ASIA

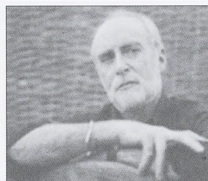
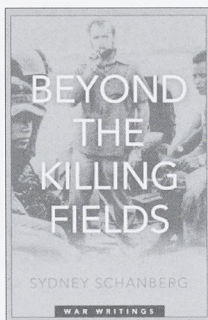
“WHY PUT TOGETHER A collection of old war stories?”

That’s the question **Sydney Schanberg** asks, and he answers, “We Americans are notoriously deficient about taking lessons from our own history. So perhaps this book will remind people what war is really like. Slaughter is no less bestial now than it has been through recorded history.” Some of Schanberg’s war reporting and commentaries published in *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Nation* Institute and *Village Voice* are compiled and edited by **Robert Miraldi**, a newspaper reporter and journalism professor, in *Beyond the Killing Fields: War Writings* [Washington, D.C.: Potomac Books]. In an e-mail to friends, Schanberg wrote in part, “The United States, my country, has somehow become a nation in a state of constant war, terribly costly in lives and national well-being. I learned that many wars are unnecessary – carried out for reasons having little or nothing to do with national security.”

In an October 2003 *Village Voice* article reprinted in the book’s last chapter, Schanberg wrote, “If some wishful Americans are still hoping President

Bush will acknowledge that his imperial foreign policy has stumbled in Iraq and needs fixing or reining in, they should put aside those reveries. He’s going all the way – and taking us with him.”

Schanberg reported from wars in Cambodia, Vietnam and India-Pakistan. He won the 1976 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting and the 1971 and 1974 George Polk Awards for excellence in journalism.



Robert Miraldi

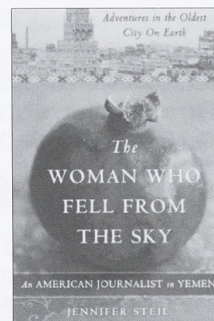
MIDDLE EAST

“I HAD NO IDEA HOW TO find my way around this medieval city. It was getting dark. I was tired. I didn’t speak Arabic. I was a little frightened. But hadn’t I battled scorpions in the wilds of Costa Rica and prevailed? Hadn’t I survived fainting in a San José brothel? Hadn’t I once arrived in Ireland with only \$10 in my pocket and made it last two weeks? Surely I could handle a walk through an unfamiliar town. So I took a breath, tightened the black scarf around my hair, and headed out to take my first solitary steps through Sana’a.”

That’s how **Jennifer Steil** describes

her arrival in Sana’a, Yemen in *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky: An American Journalist in Yemen* [New York: Random House]. A New Yorker, Steil was hired in 2006 to teach journalism to the staff of *The Yemen Observer*, and she remained for a year as the twice-weekly English-language newspaper’s Editor-in-Chief. In confronting the blatant mistreatment and strict governance of women by their male counterparts, she learns to appreciate the strength of Arab women in the workplace. And in forging surprisingly deep friendships with women and men whose traditions and beliefs are in total opposition to her own, she learns a cultural appreciation she never could have predicted. What’s more, she met the love of her life.

Steil now lives in Sana’a with her fiancé, Tim Torlot, the British ambassador to Yemen, and their daughter Theadora Celeste. Before moving to Yemen, Steil was a senior editor at *The Week*, and she also was an editor at *Playgirl* and *Folio*.



Jennifer Steil

— by **Al Kaff**

Coming Up. . .

Digital Tools for Digital Journalists
July 12, details page 11

Taiwan Minister Luncheon
July 13, details page 2

Annual Meeting
August 25, 6 p.m.
Club Quarters

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA